

#### 4VAC15-90-260

#### Game: Deer: Hunting with dogs prohibited in certain counties and areas.

##### **Summary:**

This proposal will more explicitly define current time restrictions on the use of dogs for hunting deer to enable the extension of deer firearms (open) seasons for disease and population management purposes. The proposal will make clear that the hunting of deer with dogs during any early or late antlerless only firearms deer season is prohibited.

##### **Proposed language of amendment:**

#### **4VAC15-90-260. Hunting with dogs prohibited in certain counties and areas.**

A. Generally. It shall be unlawful to hunt deer with dogs in the counties of Amherst (west of Business U.S. 29 from the James River to its intersection with U.S. 29 just south of the Town of Amherst continuing north on U.S. 29 to the Tye River), Bedford, Campbell (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad, and in the City of Lynchburg), Fairfax, Franklin, Henry, Loudoun, Nelson (west of Route 151), Northampton, Patrick and Pittsylvania (west of Norfolk Southern Railroad); and on the Amelia, Chester F. Phelps, G. Richard Thompson and Pettigrew Wildlife Management Areas, except that tracking dogs as defined in § [29.1-516.1](#) of the Code of Virginia may be used.

B. Special provision for Greene and Madison counties. It shall be unlawful to hunt deer with dogs ~~during the first 14 days on the Saturday prior to the third Monday in November and for 13 consecutive days following~~ in the counties of Greene and Madison, except that tracking dogs as defined in § [29.1-516.1](#) of the Code of Virginia may be used.

C. It shall be unlawful to hunt deer with dogs in any county or city during an open deer season(s) for antlerless deer only as defined in 4VAC15-90-10.

##### **Rationale:**

This proposal will maintain opportunities for hunting deer with dogs where and when they currently exist, while allowing extension of seasons for deer disease and population management. To address Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) management needs, the Department is proposing that an early antlerless only firearms deer season be established on private lands in Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock counties. This proposal will clarify that hunting deer with dogs is not allowed during this season. In Greene and Madison counties, the proposal will tie the 14 consecutive days when hunting deer with dogs is prohibited to the opening day of the traditional firearms deer season.